IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with strikethrough. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please CANCEL claims 1-9, 11, 13-16, 19-23, 27, 31, 36, 38-49, 51, 52 and 54-77 (claims 10, 12, 17, 18, 24-26, 28-30, 32-35, and 37 remain cancelled), and ADD new claims 78-93 in accordance with the following:

1-77. (CANCELLED)

78. (NEW) A point management system connected with a customer terminal via a communication link, employing a computer for managing points issued to each customer who receives services according to the issued points, comprising:

a point issuing unit to issue the points to a customer according to transactions performed by the customer;

a point accumulation unit to calculate and accumulate the issued points;

a customer identification unit to identify the customer according to customer identification information obtained from the customer terminal; and

a notifying unit to notify the customer of the cumulative points accumulated by the point accumulation unit by sending the cumulative points to the customer terminal when the customer is successfully identified by the customer identification unit.

79. (NEW) A point management system connected with a customer terminal via a communication link, employing a computer for managing points issued to each customer who receives services according to the issued points, comprising:

a point issuing unit to issue the points to a customer according to transactions performed by the customer;

a point accumulation unit to calculate and accumulate the issued points;

a customer identification unit to identify the customer according to customer identification information obtained from the customer terminal; and

a notifying unit to notify the customer of the cumulative points accumulated by the point

accumulation unit by displaying the cumulative points using the customer terminal on a first display after the customer is successfully identified by the customer identification unit.

80. (NEW) A point management system connected with a customer terminal via a communication link, employing a computer for managing points issued to each customer who receives services according to the issued points, comprising:

a point issuing unit to issue the points to a customer according to past transactions performed by the customer;

a point accumulation unit to calculate and accumulate the issued points;

a customer identification unit to identify the customer according to customer identification information obtained from the customer terminal; and

a notifying unit to notify the customer of the cumulative points accumulated by the point accumulation unit by sending the cumulative points to the customer terminal prior to starting a current transaction when the customer is successfully identified by the customer identification unit.

81. (NEW) A point management system connected with a customer terminal via a communication link, employing a computer for managing points issued to each customer who receives services according to the issued points, comprising:

a point issuing unit to issue the points to a customer according to transactions performed by the customer;

a point accumulation unit to calculate and accumulate the issued points;

a customer identification unit to identify the customer according to customer identification information obtained from the customer terminal; and

a notifying unit to notify the customer of the cumulative points accumulated by the point accumulation unit by sending the cumulative points to the customer terminal prior to starting a purchase transaction when the customer is successfully identified by the customer identification unit.

82. (NEW) The point management system according to claim 81, wherein the notifying unit further notifies receivable services in a range of the customer's present cumulative points.

83. (NEW) The point management system according to claim 82, further comprising:

a selection unit to enable the customer to select a requiring genre of service; and

a displaying unit to display the services belonging to the genre the customer selected, points required for said each service and points additionally required to receive said each service.

84. (NEW) The point management system according to claim 83, further comprising:

a entering unit to enable the customer enter a requiring service; and

wherein the displaying unit further displays shortage points for receiving a service corresponding to the service the customer entered.

85. (NEW) A method of managing points issued to each customer who receives services according to the issued points in a point management system connected with a customer terminal via a communication link using a computer, comprising:

issuing the points to a customer according to transactions performed by the customer;

calculating cumulative points by accumulating the issued points;

identifying the customer according to customer identification information obtained from the customer terminal; and

notifying the customer of the cumulative points by sending the cumulative points to the customer terminal prior to starting a purchase transaction when the customer is successfully identified.

86. (NEW) The method of managing points according to claim 85, further comprising:

notifying receivable services in a range of the customer's present cumulative points.

87. (NEW) The method of managing points according to claim 86, further comprising:

enabling the customer to select a requiring genre of service; and

displaying the services belonging to the genre the customer selected, points required for said each service and points additionally required to receive said each service.

88. (NEW) The method of managing points according to claim 87, further comprising:

enabling the customer to enter a requiring service; and

displaying shortage points for receiving a service corresponding to the service the

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customer entered.

89. (NEW) A method of managing points issued to each customer who receives services according to the issued points in a point management system connected with a customer terminal via a communication link using a computer, comprising:

issuing the points to a customer according to transactions performed by the customer;

calculating cumulative points by accumulating the issued points;

identifying the customer according to customer identification information obtained from the customer terminal; and

notifying the customer of the cumulative points by sending the cumulative points to the customer terminal when the customer is successfully identified.

90. (NEW) A method of managing points issued to each customer who receives services according to the issued points in a point management system connected with a customer terminal via a communication link using a computer, comprising:

issuing the points to a customer according to transactions performed by the customer;

calculating cumulative points by accumulating the issued points;

identifying the customer according to customer identification information obtained from the customer terminal; and

notifying the customer of the cumulative points by displaying the cumulative points to the customer terminal on a first display after the customer is successfully identified.

91. (NEW) A method of managing points issued to each customer who receives services according to the issued points in a point management system connected with a customer terminal via a communication link using a computer, comprising:

issuing the points to a customer according to past transactions performed by the customer;

calculating cumulative points by accumulating the issued points;

identifying the customer according to customer identification information obtained from the customer terminal; and

notifying the customer of the cumulative points by sending the cumulative points to the customer terminal prior to starting a current transaction when the customer is successfully identified.

92. (NEW) A point management method managing points issued to each customer via a computer, comprising:

extracting purchase data responsive to a customer transaction;

correlating the extracted purchase data of the customer transaction with a purchase condition table stored by a provider; and

calculating and issuing points in relation to a customer in accordance with the correlation of the extracted purchase data with the purchase condition table including indicating target points for which the customer is eligible to receive a credit.

93. (NEW) A computer-readable recording medium having a program stored therein to cause a computer to execute operations to manage points issued to customers, comprising:

correlating purchase data of a customer transaction with a purchase condition table stored by a provider; and

calculating and issuing points in real-time to credit a customer corresponding to the purchase data in accordance with the correlation of the purchase data with the purchase condition table.